

Appl. No. : **09/883862**
Filed : **06/18/2001**

REMARKS

The examiner rejected independent Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 10-14, as being unpatentable over Bald et al. U.S. Patent 6,054,865 in view of one or more of Marino et al. U.S. patent 4,490,799 and in further view of Jasmin et al. U.S. Patent 4,293,923. Dependent Claims 4, 7, 8, 9, 15, and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were otherwise allowable.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of dependent Claim 7, thereby bringing independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-6, 8 and 9 into condition for allowance. Claim 1 has also been amended to clarify the reference to terminals.

Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to remove the reference to "second" and "third" in view of their separate dependence from Claim 1.

Claim 3 has also been amended to correct punctuation.

Claims 7, and 10-13 have been cancelled.

Independent Claim 14 has been amended to include the limitation of dependent Claim 15, thereby bringing independent Claim 14 into condition for allowance.

Claim 15 has been cancelled.

The examiner objected to Claim 16, as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, Claim 16 is in independent form and believed to be in condition for allowance without amendment.

Claims 17, and 18 are dependent on Claim 16, and are therefore, also believed to be in condition for allowance.

New Claims 19-21 include all of the limitations of Claims 4, 8, and 9, respectively. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable over the art of record.


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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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By: 
Thomas R. Arno
Registration No. 40,490
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(619) 235-8550

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Formal drawings are submitted herewith. No amendments to the content have been made.